

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH.

JANUARY, 1895]

To the Chairman and Members of the Southall-Norwood Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I beg to submit for your consideration my Fourth Annual Report on the sanitary condition of the Southall-Norwood Urban Sanitary District for the year 1894, drawing your attention to the annexed tables of vital statistics and cases of infectious sickness, reported under the Notification Act, as required by the Local Government Board.

The Report is divided into 3 sections which treat respectively of

I.—The Population and Vital Statistics.

II.—Infectious Diseases; their origin and means adopted by your Sanitary Officers to prevent their spread.

III.—An account of the Sanitary Work for the year.

SECTION I.

POPULATION.—CENSUS, 1891.

Southall.....	4407
Norwood Village.....	781
London County Asylum.....	2037
St. Marylebone Schools.....	335

7560

Total number of inhabited houses.....	971
Total number of tenements or families, or separate occupiers.....	1032
Total number of tenements of 4 rooms or less.....	323
Tenements of 1 room.....	12
Tenements of 2 rooms.....	51
Tenements of 3 rooms.....	87
Tenements of 4 rooms.....	173

Houses erected and occupied since April, 1892, to present time.....	77
---	----

ESTIMATED POPULATION, 1894.

Estimated according to the method of the Registrar General, the population to the middle of 1894 would be returned at 5572. But this method assumes that the population has gone on increasing or diminishing since the last Census, *at exactly the same rate* as it did between that and the previous Census; whereas in this District for the last two or three years the rate of increase has been much greater than in previous years.

Under these circumstances in calculating the population I have not relied upon Census data alone, but have corrected the figures so obtained, by taking into consideration (1) the "natural increase" (*i.e.* excess of births over deaths) of the population. (2) The number of new houses inhabited and (3) The new residents, so far as can be ascertained, who have come into the District during the year.

After taking these facts into consideration, I estimate the population of Southall-Norwood to the middle of 1894 at 5756.

From figures kindly supplied by the Superintendents of the respective Institutions, I am enabled to give the population of the London County Asylum (Norwood) and the St. Marylebone Schools, on the 1st of January, 1895.

London County Asylum:

Number of Patients.....	1967	}	2167
Resident Staff	200		

St. Marylebone Schools:

Number of Children.....	327	}	361
Resident Staff, about.....	34		
Estimated Population Southall-Norwood.....			5756
		Total.....	7984

ACREAGE.

The area of the District is about 2,461 Statute Acres; 2412 of land; and 49 acres of water.

The soil is chiefly brick earth, with a subsoil of gravel.

Excluding the inmates of the Asylum and St. Marylebone Schools, the density of population is 2·3 persons per acre.

The number of persons per house averages 5·4.

The number of inhabited houses per acre (excluding acreage of Institutions) is ·47.

CENSUS OF THAT PART OF HESTON ADDED TO NORWOOD IN SEPTEMBER, 1894.

From figures kindly supplied by Mr. Rayner, School Attendance Officer :—

Area—103 Statute Acres.

Total number of houses, 50.

Infants and children up to 14 years of age, 115 (males 60, females 55).

Persons aged 14 and upwards, 145 (males 83, females 62).

Total, 260.

As this portion of your District was only taken over in September last, I have not included its population in any statistical calculations contained in this Report.

The Registrar has reported 1 Death and 2 Births as having occurred in this part of the District.

BIRTH RATE.

The total number of Births registered for the past year was 184. (84 males and 100 females). (Still Births, not registered, 10).

This is equivalent to a birth rate of 31·9 per 1,000 of population, as compared with 34·6 for 1893.

Year.	Births.			Rate.			Population.		
1891	208	...	...	40·9	...	...	5188
1892	193	...	...	37·2	...	...	5188
1893	189	...	...	34·6	..	...	5456
1894	184	...	...	31·9	...	...	5756

DEATH RATE.

The total number of Deaths registered, at all ages, and from all causes, during the year was 198; but in calculating the death rate for your District proper, it is necessary to exclude the deaths (123) which occurred in the London County Asylum (Norwood), and those which occurred in the St. Marylebone Schools (12), as the inmates of these Institutions are not for statistical purposes included in our population; each Institution being regarded as a separate District.

Moreover, 2 of the recorded deaths were persons dying within our District and not belonging thereto, these also have to be deducted; and 2 deaths at the Joint Hospital of patients from this District have to be added, so that the corrected total for the year was 63.

The Death Rate, calculated on the estimated population for 1894, is 10·9 per 1,000 persons living.

From figures kindly supplied to me by Mr. Woodbridge, I am enabled to give the following table, showing the number of deaths and rates since 1883.

Year.			Deaths.			Rate.			Population.
1883	...	...	102	...	...	24·2	...	...	4164
1884	...	...	84	...	...	20·2	...	...	—
1885	...	...	83	...	...	19·9	...	...	—
1886	...	...	77	...	...	16·8	...	...	—
1887	...	...	66	...	...	15·8	...	...	—
1888	...	...	55	...	...	13·2	...	...	—
1889	...	...	77	..	...	16·8	...	...	—
1890	...	...	83	...	...	19·9	...	...	—
1891	...	...	64	...	...	12·3	..	...	5188
1892	...	...	75	...	...	14·4	...	...	—
1893	...	...	63	...	...	11·5	...	...	Estimated. 5456
1894	...	...	63	...	...	10·9	...	...	5756

The Table A,* appended to the report, shows the age at which death occurred.

Under 1 year, 27	5 and under 15, 5.	25 and under 65, 5.
1 and under 5, 7.	15 and under 25, 1	65 and upwards, 18.

The second part of Table A shows the causes of death were as follows :

Membranous Croup, 7 (1 in Hospital) ; Whooping Cough, 2 ; Diarrhœa, 2 ; Bronchitis and other Respiratory Diseases, 19 ; Heart Disease, 2 ; Measles, 1 ; Diphtheria, 0 ; Scarlet Fever, 1 (in Hospital) ; other diseases not classified, 31.

1893.		1894.	
Disease.	Number of Deaths.	Disease.	Number of Deaths.
Membranous Croup.....	6	Increase (in Hospital).....	1
Enteric Fever.....	—	None.....	—
Puerperal Fever.....	1	Decrease	1
Whooping Cough.....	2	Same.....	—
Diarrhœa	5	Decrease	3
Phthisis.....	3	None	—
Bronchitis and other Res- } piratory Diseases.....	8	Increase.....	11
Heart Disease.....	4	Decrease	2
Scarlet Fever (Hospital).....	1	Same.....	—
Measles.....	none	Increase.....	1
Injuries	5	None	—
Other Diseases not classified...	31	Same.....	—

* Tables A and B are not appended to the printed reports, they are drawn up on forms supplied by the Local Government Board.

TABLE OF DEATHS IN THE LONDON COUNTY ASYLUM.

Age.

15 and under 25—3 | 25 and under 60—73 | 60 and upwards—47.

Causes.

Enteric Fever, 1 ; Erysipelas, 1 ; Influenza, 3 ; Bronchitis, 8 ; Heart Disease, 8 ; Phthisis, 14 ; Other causes, 88.

TABLE OF DEATHS IN THE ST. MARYLEBONE SCHOOLS.

Age.

Between 1 and 5 years—11. 5 and under 15—1.

Causes.

Measles, 5 ; Whooping Cough, 5 ; Bronchitis, 1 ; Other causes, 1.

ZYMOTIC DEATH RATE.

The death rate from the seven principal Zymotic Diseases, *i.e.*, Small Pox, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Diphtheria, (and Membranous Croup) Whooping Cough, continued Fever and Diarrhœa, is 2·2 per 1000 ; as compared with 2·7 for 1893, and 3·2 for 1892.

RESPIRATORY DEATH RATE.

The death rate from Respiratory Diseases (*i.e.*, Bronchitis, Pneumonia, Pleurisy, &c.) calculated on the estimated population is 3·3 per 1,000, as against 1·4 per 1,000 for 1893, and 5·2 per 1,000 for 1892.

No death from any Tubercular Disease, Phthisis, &c., was recorded.

INFANT MORTALITY.

That is to say, deaths of children under 1 year of age is equivalent to 146·7 deaths of 1,000 children *born and registered*, as compared with 74 per 1,000 born and registered for 1893, and 139·8 for 1892. The increase as compared with last year is due to the unusual number of deaths from Bronchitis amongst infants. Over half of the total deaths of infants recorded for the year, occurred in January and February from this complaint.

The average Infantile Death Rate for England and Wales for the ten years 1870 to 1880 was 149 per 1,000.

SECTION II.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Table B appended to the Report to the Local Government Board, shows the number of cases of Infectious Diseases which have been reported under the Notification Act during the year.

The total number of cases recorded was 85. 19 of these cases occurred in the London County Asylum, so that the number of cases in Southall proper, was 66.

Compared with 1893, there is a decrease of 39 in Southall proper.

The Certificates related to the following diseases:—

Scarlet Fever.....	45.....	
Small Pox.....	3.....	
Erysipelas.....	18.....	{ (including 15 in London County Asylum).
Diphtheria	4.....	
Membranous Croup.....	11.....	
Enteric Fever.....	—.....	(4 in London County Asylum).
Puerperal Fever.. ..	—.....	

TABLE FOR COMPARISON WITH 1893.

		including
Scarlet Fever.....	76.....	(1 St. Marylebone Schools.)
Diphtheria.....	9.....	(1 St. Marylebone Schools).
Membranous Croup.....	9.....	(1 St. Marylebone Schools).
Enteric Fever.....	6.....	(1 London County Asylum).
Puerperal Fever.....	1.....	
Small Pox.. ..	1.....	
Erysipelas.....	16.....	(10 London County Asylum).

Thirty-five of these cases occurred on the South side of the Railway, 21 on the North, and 10 in Norwood Village.

Out of the total number of cases, 49 were treated at the "Joint Isolation Hospital at Hillingdon." 19 were treated at the Isolation Hospitals in the Institution in connection with which they occurred.

SCARLET FEVER.

It is very satisfactory to note the marked decrease (31 cases) in the number of cases of Scarlet Fever, compared with last year.

The Disease may now be regarded as completely stamped out in this District as the number of cases has steadily declined throughout the year.

For the last 3 months no case was recorded.

Thirty-seven of the total of 45 cases occurred during the first 5 months of the year.

The origin of the infection in the majority of this group of 37 cases, was traced to contact with antecedent cases, previous to isolation of the patients. The infection in 4 of this number, however, occurred in a different manner. They constituted what is known as "return cases," *i.e.*, the disease was contracted in each instance after the return home of a patient from the Isolation Hospital, who had been treated there for Scarlet Fever, and *although apparently perfectly well*, and desquamation quite ceased, were still in an infectious condition.

With respect to the second group of 8 cases, none were recorded from the end of May to the middle of July; on the 20th of that month, however, a case occurred in Kingston Road. On enquiring into the origin of this case, I thought it desirable to examine the Scholars at Norwood Bridge Schools, where the patient had been attending, as by my enquiries I had excluded all other probable sources of contagion.

At the Schools I found two children (members of the same family) in the Infants' Room, just commencing to peel after Scarlet Fever, and therefore in a highly infectious condition.

On making further enquiries I ascertained that a sister of these children was at home ill in bed.

I visited the house, and found this girl suffering from Scarlet Fever in the second stage, with the rash well out.

These cases not having been notified under the provisions of the Notification Act, and the parents failing to send any explanation, as requested by the Board, legal proceedings were taken which resulted in penalties to the amount of twenty shillings being imposed by the Justices.

Although I certainly anticipated an extensive outbreak as a consequence of the exposure of these infected children in School, only 2 other cases occurred amongst the scholars.

The Schools were fumigated, and visited by myself daily, and the children examined until the incubation period of the disease had passed; also the nature of the illness of all absentees, who were reported ill, was enquired into. This outbreak in the Schools accounts for the source of Infection of all the cases for the last 7 months, with the exception of 1 in July and 1 in August, which were contracted away from the District.

The disease has been of a very mild character, only 1 case proving fatal.

Previous to the formation of the Local Board, it was the exception for any case of Scarlet Fever occurring in a private house in this District, to be removed to the Hospital.

This year all the cases, with the exception of 3, were treated at the Joint Isolation Hospital at Hillingdon, and it is to this effectual Isolation by removal to Hospital that I attribute the decadence of the Disease.

All Authorities are agreed that complete Isolation is the only effectual method of stamping out this Disease, and from the long

duration of the infectiousness of the patient (never less than 6 weeks), it is practically impossible to obtain the requisite seclusion of the patient in the poorer class of houses.

Moreover, the comparative freedom of the patient and better hygienic conditions under which he is placed in Hospital are conducive to a more speedy recovery.

The following tables show the number of cases which occurred during the different months of the year, and in the various Streets and Divisions of the District, and the number of infected houses in each street.

Month.	Number of Cases.	Month.	Number of Cases.
January.....	6	July (Outbreak at Norwood {	6
February	6	Bridge Schools)..... }	
March.....	7	August { Contracted away {	1
April	13	September { from this district }	1
May.....	5	October.....	—
June	—	November.....	—
		December.....	—

North of Railway.

Street.	Number of Cases.	Number of Houses.
Greenford Lane.....	1	1
North Road.....	1	1
Avenue Road.....	2	2
White Street.....	4	2
South Road.....	1	1
Randolph Road.....	4	2
	—	—
	13	9
	—	—

Average of 1·4 to each house. For 1893 there were 23 cases in 9 streets and 14 houses.

South of Railway.

Street.	Number of Cases.	Houses.
Kingston Road.....	2	2
Baxter's Row.....	9	6
Featherstone Road.....	1	1
Havelock Road.....	1	1
Top Locks.....	2	2
The Green.....	1	1
Denmark Cottages.....	2	2
Clifton Terrace.....	3	1
Promenade	1	1
	—	—
	22	17
	—	—

Average of 1·5 to each house. For 1893 there were 45 cases in 17 streets and 32 houses.

Norwood.

Street.	Number of Cases.	Houses.
Harewood Terrace.....	4	2
Norwood Green.....	1	1
Woodlake.....	5	1

Average of 2·2 to each house. For 1893 there were 8 cases in 4 streets and 7 houses.

DIPHTHERIA AND MEMBRANOUS CROUP.

These diseases being practically identical in their nature will be considered together.

Of the 15 cases reported during the year (11 Membranous Croup and 4 Diphtheria) 10 occurred on the South side of the Railway, 4 on the North side, and 1 in Norwood village.

No 2 cases occurred in the same house; and it is remarkable—especially as regards the cases on the South side—that all occurred within a limited area, the infected houses being in close proximity.

The source of infection of the above cases does not call for any remarks, with exception to a well defined group of 4 cases which occurred in June amongst children attending St. John's School.

In consequence of this outbreak, and of complaints at the same time being made to the Local Board, as to the insanitary condition of the St. John's Schools, Mr. Tidy and myself made a careful inspection of their sanitary condition, which was found to be perfectly satisfactory in every respect.

The sanitary condition of the premises in which these four cases occurred was also found to be satisfactory.

Such being the case, we concluded that the disease was contracted at School, most probably from a child that had been attending school whilst suffering from a mild unrecognised attack of the complaint, and that the Schools were merely instrumental in extending the disease through being the common point of contact among the children, and were in no way responsible for the origin of the outbreak.

The 4 cases of Diphtheria which occurred during the year were removed to the Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment. All recovered. All the cases of Membranous Croup were treated at their own homes, owing to the usually rapidly fatal character of the illness, removal is not advisable as a rule. 5 of these cases proved fatal.

ENTERIC OR TYPHOID FEVER.

No cases of this disease occurred amongst members of our population during the year; a very gratifying fact as the disease is held to be an indication of greater or less value of the sanitary conditions of a locality.

Four cases were notified by the Medical Superintendent of the L.C. Asylum, as having occurred within the precincts of that Institution. These cases were investigated by Dr. Shirley Murphy, the Medical Officer of Health to the London County Council.

SMALL POX.

Three cases of this disease were notified. All occurred at the end of May, in two houses on the North side of the Railway. From the history I obtained there can be no doubt that one of the patients contracted the disease from her husband, who was said to have been ill a little time previously, and had a similar eruption.

On examining the husband I found he presented evidence of having recently suffered from small pox. It was also ascertained that a labourer, newly arrived in the district, had been lodging at their house, and that he had an eruption on his face when he arrived here. From the description given me of this case I fully believe it was modified small pox. Whilst making our enquiries, however, he suddenly left the district, so I was unable to verify my opinion as to the nature of his complaint, but I have no doubt that he was the means of bringing the infection into the District. A third case at the Crescent was due to direct contact with one of the previous cases before the nature of the illness was recognised.

The houses in which the cases occurred were thoroughly fumigated, the bedding destroyed, and all persons who had come into immediate contact with the patient were re-vaccinated where necessary.

The patients were removed to the Joint Isolation Hospital for treatment.

ERYSIPELAS.

Of the 18 cases notified 15 occurred in the London County Asylum (Norwood). None of the cases call for any remarks, all being of a very mild type.

Many Sanitary Authorities have excluded this Disease from the Schedule of Notifiable Diseases, as it very rarely assumes Epidemic proportions, and is only contagious under certain conditions.

WHOOPIING COUGH.

Seven fatal cases of this disease occurred, 5 of which were inmates of the St. Marylebone Schools. In 1893, 2 fatal cases were recorded.

The disease not being a notifiable one, we have no means of ascertaining the number of cases, other than those proving fatal.

Under existing conditions in the majority of cases, no means whatever are taken to isolate the patient, and so prevent the spread of the disease.

As Whooping Cough is very infectious and is now the most fatal of all infectious complaints of children under the age of 5 years, I am strongly of opinion that this disease should be added to the Schedule of Notifiable Diseases. A suggestion which I trust will receive your early attention.

MEASLES

was prevalent in the District during the months of May and June. The disease was of a mild character; there were, however, 6 fatal cases, 5 of which occurred in the St. Marylebone Schools.

EPIDEMIC INFLUENZA.

This complaint was very prevalent during the earlier months of the year. Generally speaking, the cases were of a mild type. The deaths of 3 patients in the London County Asylum were directly attributed to this disease.

ACTION TAKEN TO PREVENT THE SPREAD OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE.

Your Sanitary Officers have found the Infectious Diseases Notification Act, and the Infectious Diseases Prevention Act of very great assistance in preventing the spread of Infectious Diseases. When a case comes to our knowledge your Inspector and myself visit the premises to ascertain the probable origin.

In every case the drains, and sanitary arrangements generally of the house are thoroughly examined, and when any defects are found, the owner or the tenant, as the case may be, is called upon to remedy them.

In all cases where complete isolation can not be adopted, we endeavour to get the patient removed to the Isolation Hospital. Providing the case is not sent away, full instructions are given for isolating the patient and the necessary disinfectants supplied gratuitously.

When the case has been removed, or if treated at home, after the recovery has taken place, your Inspector thoroughly disinfects the premises, and almost invariably with a successful result. Any children residing in an infected house are not allowed to attend school until all possibility of their being able to carry infection is past. A notification to this effect is sent to the Attendance Officer of the School Board.

Arrangements have been made this year for notice to be sent to your Inspector, when any patient from this District is ready to return home from the Hospital, in order to insure immediate detection of any "return cases"; as the house will be subsequently kept under observation by the Inspector.

In my Monthly Report for June last, I suggested how desirable it was that a nurse should accompany the ambulance to take charge of the patient, when a case of Infectious Disease was removed to the Hospital, as under existing circumstances the patient had either to be sent alone, or accompanied by one of the relatives. The Joint Hospital Committee has since made arrangements for a nurse to accompany the Ambulance as suggested.

It is a matter for regret that the Joint Hospital Authorities cannot see their way to provide a new ambulance for the removal of patients from this District to the Hospital, although they have been urged to do so by the Local Board.

Their objection, I believe, is chiefly on the ground of expense.

I regard the present conveyance as totally unfit for the removal of severe cases of illness—more especially Diphtheria, and I trust your Council will endeavour to give effect to this recommendation, as by so doing the safety and comfort of the patient will be better provided for.

In the Annual Report for 1893 I suggested that a permanent Isolation Hospital should be provided for the Southall-Norwood District alone, as the accommodation of the Joint Hospital, Hillingdon, was insufficient to meet the requirements of the population of the various Districts contributing to its support.

At a meeting of the Local Board on March 13th, a Committee of the Chairman, Messrs. Gibson, H. C. Hanson, Houlder and Martyn was appointed to consider the question of the proposed separation from the Joint Hospital District, with power to act.

After some correspondence the Joint Hospital Board decided that the question of separation should stand over until after the District Council Elections.

SECTION III.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Water for this District is obtained from the South-West Suburban Water Company, which supplies all the houses, except a few in the isolated parts of the District. For the last three years the supply has been very satisfactory, being practically a constant one.

Whenever it has been necessary to cut off the supply for repairs to mains, &c., notices stating the length of time the supply would be stopped have been posted in prominent places throughout the District. As regards quality, I have made several quantitative analyses, during the year, and have invariably found it to be a water of high purity. As in previous years I append an independent Certificate from the County Analyst of a sample taken from the Company's main on January 10th, 1895.

[COPY.]

LABORATORIES,

3 & 4, NEW COURT,

LINCOLN'S INN, LONDON, W.C.

January 17th, 1895.

Mr. Tidy.

DEAR SIR,—The following are the results of my analysis of the sample of water received on the 12th instant. It was labelled 10th January, 1895. From the Water Company's Main, supplying the District of Southall-Norwood.

Sample taken 10th day January, 1895.

	Parts per 100,000
Total Solids dried 100° C.....	46·8
Total Solids after ignition.....	27·6
Chlorine as Sodium Chloride.....	2·2
Nitric Acid as Nitrates.....	1·6
Pposphotes	absent.
Free Ammonia.....	·001
Albumenoid Ammonia.....	·010
Oxygen absorbed in 3 hours.....	·08

From a consideration of these numbers, I am of opinion that the water has been satisfactorily purified, and that it may be safely used for drinking purposes.—I am,

Yours faithfully,

EDWARD BEVAN.

I have analysed and reported on 17 samples of water during the year, taken from wells in various parts of the District. With the exception of 3, all the samples showed more or less evidence of contamination. The necessary steps were taken in each case to ensure a pure supply.

OVERCROWDING OF DWELLING HOUSES.

Three cases of alleged overcrowding have been investigated during the year, and in all such was found to be the case. Notices were served under the 91st Section Public Health Act, and were complied with.

GENERAL SANITARY MATTERS.

In April, I reported on the insanitary condition of 5 cottages, known as Curnock's Cottages, Western Road. I expressed an opinion that all of them were totally unfit for human habitation in their present state, as they were found to be dilapidated, damp, and without any efficient sanitary arrangements or water supply. Notices were served under the Housing of the Working Classes Act, as a result of which the houses were put into a habitable condition by the owner.

In May, notice was served on Messrs. Meade, of Paddington, to abate a nuisance injurious to health, caused by the deposit of a heap of house refuse and street sweepings, at North Hyde, which contained a considerable quantity of decomposing animal and vegetable matter. Nothing being done, legal proceedings were taken. At the hearing on the 15th of May, the defendants consented to an Order of the Court prohibiting a recurrence of the nuisance.

In May, your Inspector called my attention to the fact that the carcasses of 3 pigs, which he had discovered in a slaughter house in the District, did not appear to him to be fit for food.

On examining the same, I found all of them presented evidence of having suffered from some Acute Specific Disease, which I believed to have been Swine Fever (an opinion which was subsequently confirmed by the Board of Agriculture).

On the 12th of May, Mr. Tidy and myself attended before the Justices, at Brentford, with regard to this case.

The Justices viewed the carcasses and condemned the same, and ordered them to be destroyed. The further hearing was adjourned to May 19th, on which date we again attended and gave evidence as to the nature of the disease and unfitness for food. The Bench dismissed the case, holding that it was not proved that the Defendants had "guilty knowledge" that the carcasses were diseased, or that they were intended for food.

Section 116 of Public Health Act distinctly states "That the proof that any unsound food was not exposed *or* deposited for sale, or was not intended for the food of man, *rests with the party charged.*"

In June, legal proceedings were taken against Mr. James Robinson for failing to comply with a notice served on him to abate a nuisance injurious to health, arising from a heap of refuse deposited on the Grand Junction Canal Wharf at Norwood Bridge.

The Justices bound the Defendant over to appear for judgment if called upon.

In August, I reported in detail on the sanitary condition of numbers 1, 2, 3 and 4, Baker's Terrace, Southall Green.

All were found to be more or less damp, dilapidated and badly ventilated.

Notices were served under the Housing of the Working Classes Act. The work necessary to put the houses into a habitable condition is nearly completed.

REMOVAL OF HOUSE REFUSE.

The work of removing the house refuse has been carried out in a satisfactory manner, no complaints have been received. All the houses in the District including those recently taken over from the Heston Parish are supplied with proper "Sanitary" Dust Bins, which are emptied weekly.

In 1893 I recommended that the dust carts should be provided with suitable covers; the matter was referred to the Works Committee for consideration, who did not see their way to advise the Board to adopt this suggestion, chiefly on account of the expense it would entail.

I trust the Council will give this matter their consideration, as there is no doubt, especially in summer time and in windy weather, that the carts cause some nuisance.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

Method in use in the District : { Water carriage system, with separate storm water sewer.

The following new sewers have been laid during the year :—

- (1) Foul and storm water sewer to drain Margarine Works.
- (2) Storm water sewer in South Road.
- (3) Storm water sewer to drain Steamfield Estate, about 824 feet in length. (Work nearly completed.)

Drawings have been sent to the Local Government Board, and application made for a loan, for the purpose of extending the Sewerage System to drain part of North Hyde and Havelock Road. The new sewer will be about one and a half miles in length.

SEWAGE WORKS AND IRRIGATION SITE.

(Particulars supplied by Mr. Newell, Surveyor to the Council.)

At the Sewage Works the District Sewage flows in by gravitation at the higher level of works, and is received into two large settling tanks, from which it is passed also by gravitation through a 12-in. main on to the Irrigation Site, where it is run in open carriers and distributed at various points on to the land, the effluent eventually passing into the river Brent, at the extreme Eastern boundary of the Irrigation Site. The total inflow for 24 hours normal is about 300,000 gallons. —The sewage from the County Asylum is brought to the Works on the lower level, and is received into two large reception tanks, but before passing into these tanks is treated with alumino ferric. It is then pumped by centrifugal pumps to two large settling tanks on the higher level (but before passing into the upper tanks is treated with lime and alumino ferric), from whence it is drawn off through the Polarite Filter Beds and passed into the river Brent, at the West end of the Works. The total (normal) inflow for the 24 hours from the Asylum is about 125,000 gallons. The effluent has been extremely satisfactory ; no complaints having been made either by the Thames Conservancy Inspector, County Council or Brentford Piscatorial Society. The works are under the able management of Mr. William Selvedge.

STREAMS.

The Canal dock in Havelock Road was reported by the Inspector of Nuisances as being in an insanitary state. The owner was served with notice to clean it out. The work was commenced in April, and about 1,000 tons of filth, &c., was taken away.

Four instances of pollution of the River Crane have been investigated. The causes were as follows :—

- (1) Pollution from pigsties.
- (2) Ditto from a small sewage bed (on private property).
- (3) Ditto foul ditch which emptied into the stream.
- (4) Ditto deposit of refuse on the banks.

In each case the owners complied with the requirements of the Board in abating the pollution.

COWSHEDS. DAIRIES AND MILK SHOPS (ORDER 1886).

Number of Cowsheds on Register	8
Number of Milk Shops on Register.....	2

These premises have been periodically inspected, and are in a satisfactory condition.

Two contraventions of the Bye-Laws were investigated and remedied.

SLAUGHTER HOUSES.

Nine Slaughter Houses are on the register of this Board.

One New License has been granted during the year; and 1 "transfer" from the Heston District.

All these premises have been examined by Mr. Tidy and myself, and all found in a clean and sanitary condition, with one exception, where the paving was defective.

BAKEHOUSES.

I have inspected all the bakehouses in the District (9) during the year.

In one case the premises required lime-washing; the remainder were in a satisfactory state. No contravention of the Factory Acts came under notice.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT (1875 AND 1879).

Mr. C. Tidy, the Inspector under this Act, has taken 14 samples. Six of these were found by the Public Analyst to be adulterated.

Six cases were taken to Court, and 4 convictions obtained; with penalties amounting to £28 17s. obtained.

OFFENSIVE TRADES.

No offensive trades as scheduled under the Public Health Act are carried on in this District.

Complaints were received in August respecting a nuisance arising from fish frying at Southall Green. I reported on the matter, and concluded that the nuisance chiefly arose from the use of Cocoa Nut and Cotton Oil in the process, instead of beef fat.

The matter was dealt with by notice under Section 114 of the Public Health Act, 1875.

UNSOUND FOOD.

Animals seized and destroyed	3
Articles and parcels of food destroyed.....	4

CANAL BOATS ACT.

The Inspector under this Act (Mr. C. Tidy), has examined 144 boats during the year.

The cabins of these boats were occupied by 102 male adults, 48 female adults, and 76 children.

Nine complaint notes were sent to owners contravening the Act. One case was taken to court, in which a conviction was obtained.

MOVABLE DWELLINGS, TENTS, SHEDS, &C.

Number under observation during the year.....	22	} Number of nuisances.....	none
Number removed from District.....	22		

INFANT LIFE PROTECTION ACT.

In November, I reported to the Justices on certain premises in this District as to their suitability for a License under the above Act. (Vide Clause 26 Local Government Act).

No Licensed Premises in the District.

CONTAGIOUS DISEASES ANIMALS ACT.

Number of Outbreaks..... 2

PETROLEUM ACT.

One License granted (renewal).

ADOPTIVE ACTS IN FORCE.

(1) Infectious Disease (Notification) Act, 1889.

(2) Infectious Disease Prevention Act, 1890.

(3) Public Health Amendment Act, 1890.

The Bye Laws of this Authority are based on the Model Bye Laws of the Local Government Board.

NUISANCES.

During the year a total of 138 nuisances have been investigated by your Sanitary Officers. Particulars of which are given in the following table drawn up by Mr. Inspector Tidy :—

Complaints received.....	39
Total number of Nuisances	138
Cautionary notices given.....	54
Statutory orders issued.....	17
Letters written.....	62
Cases taken to Court.....	3
Convictions obtained... ..	3

The following are particulars of the various Nuisances dealt with :—

Blocked Drains.....	14
Deposits and Refuse and Manure	22
Defective w.c. Apparatus	3
Defective Paving of Court Yards.....	6
Offensive Piggeries	4
Cesspools, Cesspits and Privies emptied.....	24
Water laid to w.c.'s.....	7
Defective Gullies and w.c. Traps.....	2
Overcrowded Houses.....	2
Pollutions of Rivers and Streams.....	3
Houses closed.....	10
Foul Ditches, Docks and Watercourses.....	3
Sink waste discharging direct into Main.....	1
Dirty Urinals.. ..	2
Privies done away with.....	2
Throwing and spilling filth into Ditches.....	1
Defective w.c. Pans.....	10
Houses in a dirty condition	12
Houses disinfected.....	49
Schools disinfected.....	2
Houses where bedding and other articles were destroyed after Infectious Sickness, and the owner compensated	2
Rooms stripped and cleaned.....	12
Houses opened after repairs.....	4
Houses demolished	10

From the above tables of Nuisances and Inspections made, it will be apparent that Mr. Tidy has had his time fully occupied during the year, in the performance of his many onerous duties, which he has carried out in a diligent and impartial manner. He has been most painstaking in investigating all nuisances brought to his notice, and in seeing that the necessary measures for their abatement were properly carried out.

PRESENT SANITARY STATE OF THE DISTRICT.

The marked decrease in the death rate—the lowest recorded since 1883—is a very satisfactory indication of the improved sanitary conditions existing in your District; more so as the rate has been calculated after carefully excluding all probable sources of error. Moreover, the death rate from Zymotic Diseases (vide Section I, page 5) has steadily declined during the past 3 years along with the general death rate, a fact of great importance in drawing conclusions from statistics; as a low zymotic rate is held to indicate a satisfactory sanitary condition of a District.

The entire absence of Enteric Fever and Phthisis from the mortality returns, and the great decrease in the number of cases of Infectious Diseases notified also point to the fact that your District is in a much healthier state since it has had the management of its own sanitary affairs. The drainage, sewage disposal, removal of house refuse and water supply for the District is most satisfactory ; with the exception of 3 groups of cottages and a few isolated houses in the outlying parts of the District, all premises are drained into the sewer and are supplied with the Company's Water.

The extension of the Sewerage System to North Hyde and Havelock Road (which will in all probability shortly be commenced) will drain the majority of the houses as yet unconnected, and also a large number of the houses in that portion of the District recently taken over from the Heston Parish, which at present are without proper drainage and water supply ; cess pools and surface wells being the rule.

I am, gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. D. WINDLE,

Medical Officer of Health.

SOUTHALL,

January 14th, 1895.

